

PUBLIC STATEMENT

January 30, 2023

As the community is aware, in November 2021, Gerald Wright assumed the position of Interim Superintendent of Dorchester School District 4. He took on this huge responsibility three months into the 2021-22 academic year. Without missing a beat, Mr. Wright has worked to ensure that the District was able to continue educating our children without any major issues and has built a solid administrative team. As a result of his performance, we voted to remove the interim from his title in February 2022 and offered him a two-year contract. Mr. Wright has advised the Board that because of the other obligations in his life, it is not his intent to commit to a longer term. The District has truly benefited from his many years of service and dedication to public education.

In light of the fact that Mr. Wright's contract only has one school year remaining, the Board and Mr. Wright have met to discuss the direction the District would like to take to secure the future of our students. The Board and Mr. Wright are in mutual agreement that in order to ensure that the District secures the right leader for the District, it is time for the Board to start discussing its plans for finding and employing a new Superintendent. Mr. Wright, who is still under contract, has graciously agreed to continue to assist the Board and administration in ensuring that our school district's instructional program, finances, long-range planning, facilities, etc., are on sound footing so that when a new Superintendent is employed, he or she will be able to hit the ground running. As soon as practical, the Board will begin its process to search for a new leader. When the Board finds the Superintendent to lead us into our next phase as a District, Mr. Wright is agreeable to continuing to assist the District in the areas of transportation, safety and facilities through the end of his contract with the District, in light of his experience in these areas that are also vital to the overall success of the District.

My fellow Board Members and I ask that the community continue to support Mr. Wright's efforts to ensure that our students receive the best possible education. We will continue to keep the community updated as we begin our search for a Superintendent of the highest caliber, who will lead Dorchester School District Four into the educational future our students so richly deserve.

